

8 October 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel White

SUBJECT : Overseas Quarters and Storage of Household Effects

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1. I have discussed this paper at length with [REDACTED], who did the actual work on it. He pointed out that there is no question of the Director's authority to provide housing any place overseas and to furnish the quarters. This is fundamental in the original concept, in that quarters allowance is granted in lieu of Government quarters in the first place. Hence, if we provide the quarters, we are only doing what Congress originally intended.

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2. However, the law is not clear on the storage of effects which are not shipped. PL-110 and the State regulations provide for storage only when emergency conditions have been determined to exist. In talking with [REDACTED] I learned that originally Congress intended to provide the bare quarters without furnishings, and to leave to administrative determination the question of providing furniture. However, there appears to be little doubt that the storage at this end is clearly dependent upon the emergency issue. We do have the right and the authority to limit the amount which we will ship at Government expense. This does not mean that the determination to limit the amount which can be shipped means that emergency conditions exist so far as the individual is concerned and that, therefore, we can pay for storage.

3. A further point on which Pat and John both agree, and which makes sense to me after hearing them discuss it, is that no system of providing furnished quarters can be supported on the grounds of economy to the Agency. The only reason the figures [REDACTED] appear to be advantageous is that we are freeloading on the [REDACTED] warehousing and supply system. It should be noted that if we go into let's say Latin America on a general policy level, it would mean purchasing warehousing, issue, repair, and property accounting on all of the furniture and the multitude of items which go into furnishing living quarters. Pat and John argued that this would be as or more expensive than the shipping of personally owned furniture and effects.

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4. This all adds up to the conclusion you and I reached yesterday, that the present draft of the regulation should be issued as covering [REDACTED] only, and that the extension of it to other [REDACTED]

25X1A areas await and depend upon special detailed studies of the conditions existing. However, this should not deny the application of such a policy to individual cases such as pointed out [REDACTED] today-- 25X1A in [REDACTED] has reported that there is no, repeat no, housing available.

5. Pat pointed out that the last paragraph of the proposed notice is important, because we should leave ourselves an "out," in order that we may discontinue payment of storage along with the rest of the determinations when appropriate. Otherwise, once we take on the responsibility of storing a man's effects we may find ourselves paying storage charges for 20 years.

6. I have not rewritten this draft, in that there may be other points of discussion you would like to raise with me or with others. However, I do believe, referring to paragraph 4, that we should not merely leave it up to Personnel, Procurement, and the foreign divisions, but that the responsibility should be focalized. Since this is so closely related to other allowance problems, it may well be placed in the Allowances Unit which Personnel is setting up along with the Special Contracting function.

25X1A 7. Pat could give no definite answer to your question on the 25X1A limitations [REDACTED] but, to the best of his belief, it includes [REDACTED]

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cc: ADD/A chrono